

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Masaki SHIMADA et al.

Serial No.:

10/723,822

Filed: November 24, 2003

For:

Information Processing Apparatus

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450

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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Examiner:

Group Art: 2615

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March 11, 2004 (Date of Deposit)

Thomas Langer ant, assignee or Registered Representative

Signature

March 11, Date of Signature

## **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

SIR:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed form PTO/SB/08A. A copy of the listed document along with an English language abstract is also enclosed.

The reference submitted herewith is discussed on page 1 of the instant specification...

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that the copy of the enclosed form PTO/SB/08A be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R §§1.97(g) and (h), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made or that information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in §1.56(b), or that any cited document listed or attached is (or constitutes) prior art. Unless otherwise indicated, the date of publication indicated for an item is taken from the face of the item and Applicant(s) reserve(s) the right to prove that the date of publication is in fact different.

If any fees or charges are deemed required at this time in connection with the application, the same may be charged to our Patent and Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 03-2412.

Respectfully submitted, COHEN, PONTANI, LIEBERMAN & PAVANE

By:

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Dated: March 11, 2004

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Substitute for Form 1449/PTO	Complete if Known	
	Application Number	10/723,822
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE	Filing Date	November 24, 2003
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT	First Named Inventor	Masaki SHIMADA
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Use as many sheets as necessary)	Examiner Name	
Sheet of 2	Attorney Docket Number	534101-7
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<u>}</u>		U.S. PATE	NT DOCUMENTS		
Initial Document Number  Number-Kind-Code 2 (if known)		Publication Date	Name of Patentee or	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevan	
	- MM-DD-YYYY	Applicant of Cited Document	Passages or Relevant Figures Appear		
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	FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner	Cite	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or	Pages, Columns, Lines,	Te
Initials*	No. 1	Country Code <sup>3-</sup> Number <sup>4-</sup> Kind-Code <sup>5 (if known</sup>	MM-DD-YYYY	Applicant of Cited Document	Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	
		JP 11-164234	06-18-1999	MAKISHIMA et al.		Abstract

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Examiner Signature	Date Considered	

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

<sup>\*</sup>EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 'Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional), 'See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. 'Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 'For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 'Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. 'Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.